

TRINITY CHARGE--THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Christ Church, Duncannon 9:00 A.M.
Trinity Church, New Bloomfield 10:30 A.M.

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP April 11, 1971

- The Organ Prelude
- *The Hymn of Praise 168
- *The Call to Worship and Invocation
- The Scripture---Luke 24:1-35
- *The Gloria Patri
- *Apostles Creed Page 23
- Anthem (Trinity)
- Announcements
- The Receiving of Tithes and Offerings
- *The Doxology
- *The Offering Prayer and Lord's Prayer
- Reception of New Members
- The Hymn of Meditation 165
- Meditation
- The Communion Hymn 341
- *Order of Holy Communion Page 32
- *Seraphic Hymn #522
- Institution of the Lord's Supper
- Consecration of the Elements
- The Communion (Please retain the elements until all have received them)
- *Prayer of Thanksgiving
- *The Hymn of Response 167
- *The Benediction
- *The Threefold Amen
- *The Postlude

*Congregation Stands

CHRIST CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Heidelberg Class will meet Tues. April 13th at 7:30 P.M.

The Missionary Circle will meet Tues. evening April 13th at 7:30 P.M. at the home of Bessie Barrick.

Win-A-Chum Class will meet at the home of Cathy Gamber on the 16th of April at 7:30 P.M.

The flowers on our chancel have been placed by the following:

Helen, George and Linda Achenbach in memory of John Achenbach.
Mr. & Mrs. William Borcharding in memory of Mr. Borcharding & Mr. Holland.
Mary Louise Dowdrich in memory of Homer Dowdrich.
Marilyn Fisher and Esther Speece in memory of Mary Mumper.
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Forrer, Sr. in memory of Mr. & Mrs. LeRue Hess.

TRINITY CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

The flowers on the chancel today are in memory of all departed members of the Mite Society.

There is also a plant placed by Mrs. Rynkiewicz in memory of M. Zula Swartz.

Christ additions: Mr & Mrs Earl Haas, and Mrs Wolpert in memory of Erman.
Mr. Jeffrey Smith from Pine St. Pres.

Mrs. Pearl Hubbard is in Polyclinic, was to be new member today.

Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Link, Dale Link

Easter Meditation

Text: Luke 24: 5 & 6

"Why Look among the dead for someone who is alive?"

In a book I was reading recently an illustration was given about a canyon in the Yosemite Valley. In this one particular section there is a stone wall that rises and is three thousand feet high. About halfway up this sheer stone face there is or was a pine tree. At the writing of this book in about 1933 this tree was about 140 feet tall. Perhaps today it is no longer there. Or perhaps it is 141 feet tall. But this tree caused much speculation as to how it got there. The most prevalent theory is that a bird had dropped a seed while in flight and the seed came to rest in a small crevice on the rock wall. Very soon it sent its shoots into the crevice and nurtured by the rains it began to grow. Little by little it drove its roots ever deeper into the crevice in the stone so that it could spread and grow. Until it had reached the heights and it stood or stands whichever the case may be as an example of nature overcoming the impossible.

The resurrection of Christ is similar to this. When He was taken from the cross he was placed in a hole in the side of a cliff, and this in turn was sealed up. He was written off by the authorities of the day. He was given up on by His followers. His disciples were in hiding for their very lives. All indications were that He was overcome and gone forever. So long troublemaker as far as a lot of people were concerned. But just when things are beginning to look up for some of these people and get back to normal it seems that something has happened to disturb their peaceful existence again. The body has disappeared or someone has stolen it. But then we read the story again and we find that Jesus arose and overcame death and the grave.

which were growing last year
This past week I saw ~~two~~ two saplings ~~growing near our back porch~~
in the most unlikely spot near our back porch, and they are sprouting leaves.
Somehow or other they ~~have~~ started to grow behind the lattice work at the

bottom of the porch. I was going to rescue them last fall and transplant them where they can really grow into beautiful trees, but they defy removal. And so once again they will put on their greenery and compete with the porch for a place to spread out in. I was reminded as I looked at them of a bulletin board of a church I once passed near Easter. It said, "The promise of the resurrection is proved each year by each new green blade and leaf." What further proof do we need of the wondrous story of God and His love for mankind? Yet there are those who still will not accept this.

In the latest copy of Christianity Today I received yesterday, I read about the theory's developed about the crucifixion of Christ. It seems now that we have been hearing so much about racial equality that we must do something about the horrible examples our Gospel writers have given us involving literature that is so anti-semitic. You see the writers are strictly biased against the Jews, and therefore they could not write objectively. So we have all sorts of arguments raised that the Sanhedrin did not meet at the hours stated since it was contrary to their laws and they were not the ones who clamored for Jesus' death and so on.

But what the new thinkers and those so concerned about hurting the feelings of present day Jews are forgetting, is that Jesus Himself was a Jew and they were the ones who wanted Him dead, and their anti-semitism as it is called was directed against themselves. It is sort of like the case of the black panthers if you have heard about it. It seems that this group has stated publicly on many occasions that the authorities are out to annihilate them. But just recently a man who ~~is xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ wanted to find out for himself the truth or untruth of this claim investigated all the cases of death involving the black panthers. In something like 20 recent deaths he found that 3 had been shot by police bullets, several had died from other causes not involving the police, and something like 12 had been shot by their own people.

The trend today is to try to disqualify anything that can cause a controversy. I think we need to call a spade a spade. If the Jewish author-

ities were responsible for having Christ arrested tried and killed, then lets not try to whitewash them and make them saints. It's sort of like trying to say that Hitler was a real nice man and didn't really mean any harm, because if we say otherwise we are going to offend people with German blood in them. Well I have German blood in me and I still think he was a rat.

I think that we need not be surprised if the next argument forthcoming will be about the resurrection, since this is about the only thing about Jesus they have not tried to tear down lately. We cannot prove conclusively the resurrection and show it as we can other things. Here again it is a matter of faith and belief. But if we can accept the fact that when the leaves fall of the trees, that the tree is not dead and will grow new leaves in the spring, then we can accept the resurrection of Christ. "Why look among the dead, ~~any further examples~~ for someone who is alive?" Amen.